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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [CU](#) [AJ](#)  
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: ADVANCING THE U.S. POSITION  
FOR CHANGE IN CUBA

REF: STATE 18317

(SBU) The Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to Foreign Minister Mammadyarov during a February 25 meeting (other topics septel), leaving para points in para four as a nonpaper. Mammadyarov said that he would send the Cuban Ambassador a note on the issue. A/DCM also delivered the points in a separate February 25 meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Azimov, who did not provide any substantive comment.

(Comment: Azerbaijan and Cuba just opened embassies in the respective host nations in late 2007. In recent years, Azerbaijan has been reaching out to nontraditional partners such as Cuba in an effort to bolster its international image and gain support for its position on the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.)  
DERSE